

WAR DECLARED ON CHINA.

JAPAN MAKES PROCLAMATION

MERCHANT VESSELS WARNED BY THE
BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE.

CHINESE VICTORIES REPORTED IN COREA

ARMY TENDERED TO ENGLAND FOR THE
OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF THE AFFAIR—JAPANESE
TROOPS REPULSED WITH HEAVY
LOSS AT YASHAN—STRENGTHENING
THE PORTS AT TOKU—INTER-
FERENCE NOT TO BE TOLER-
ATED BY RUSSIA.

London, Aug. 1.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that Japan made a formal declaration of war upon China to-day.

The Earl of Kimberley, Minister of Foreign Affairs, received a dispatch this morning from High French, British Minister in Tokio, announcing the declaration of war, Lord Kimberley was visited this afternoon by the Japanese Minister to London, who personally communicated to him a similar announcement of the declaration.

The Government will hold a Cabinet meeting within the next two days to consider the attitude of Great Britain to the Korean question.

The vessels which China purchased for the purpose of sailing in a few days more. The loss of her services is expected to prove a serious check to China's plans.

The declaration of war also puts those English Army officers who were recently taken into Chinese service and are now on the way to China in a peculiar position. The officers in new posts will be liable to arrest under the Foreign Enlistment Act at the moment they come within the jurisdiction of British authority in any treaty port. At the same time they will have no valid claim upon Great Britain's protection if they are caught by the Japanese.

Lord Kimberley immediately upon receipt of the notice that war had been declared, telegraphed to all British representatives abroad to warn captains of merchant vessels of the fact in order that they might not form their cargoes accordingly. Any goods contraband of war in cargoes will be handled at the risk of the owners or charterers of vessels.

At the Chinese and Japanese Legations the officials have been busy all day in reading and answering dispatches from their Governments. Several officers applied at the Legations for employment in the armies, but only three of them were able to get interviews, as no one had time to receive the others.

The Admiralty has ordered Vice-Admiral Fremantle, who commands the British squadron off the East Asiatic coast, to approach Chinese and Japanese ports and, while observing strict neutrality, to watch the progress of operations.

Private dispatches say that Japan has closed her legation in Peking, and has recalled her Minister and all her consuls from China.

George Nathaniel Curzon, an authority on Eastern politics, said in an interview to-day that the war was useless and would result in nothing. After the fighting and bloodshed the status quo into would surely be restored. Mr. Curzon remarked that personally Viceroy Li Hung Chang and Premier Li were close friends.

AN APOLOGY TO ENGLAND.

The Japanese Minister waited upon Lord Kimberley at the Foreign Office to-day and expressed regret of his Government that not until after the engagement between the Japanese cruiser and the Chinese troopship Kow-Shing was it assumed that the latter was a British vessel. The Minister tendered a formal apology on behalf of his Government and promised full reparation for the affair.

In spite of the explanation and apology of the Japanese for the Kow-Shing affair, the greatest indignation is still felt by shipowners and other persons interested in the Eastern trade. They insist that the Government must press Japan for ample compensation and for assurances of better faith in the future. All the stories of Japanese cruelty are regarded in shipping circles as true, and the Japanese are denounced as cowardly and bloodthirsty.

A dispatch from Yokohama says that the commander of the Japanese squadron reports that the captain of the Kow-Shing desired to surrender, but was prevented by the crew and troops from doing so.

High Mathieson & Co., of this city and Shanghai, have received a dispatch from Tien-Tsin stating that a court of inquiry into the sinking of the Kow-Shing was opened at that place this morning. It was reported in Tien-Tsin that the crew between China and Japan would be declared as deserters.

DROWNING CHINESE FIRED UPON.

The "Standard" Chinese-Foo correspondent sends an account of the sinking of the Kow-Shing. The story merely confirms what has been reported before. Other parts are as follows:

After the Japanese boarding party left the Kow-Shing the Chinese troops were intensely excited and threatened to kill the officers if the latter allowed the Naniwa, as they had been ordered to do. The captain signalled this to the Naniwa. The Naniwa boarded the transport again. Colonel von Hammerstein and his staff were on board. There was no communication with the Kow-Shing. The Japanese emphasized the fact that the British flag was in view. He also claimed the right to return to China. The boarding party departed, and the Naniwa signalled to the officers to quit the Kow-Shing. The captain replied that the troops would not allow it. The Naniwa thereupon launched a broadside. The Kow-Shing returned fire. The Naniwa continued the fusillade with machine guns and lowered boats, without killing the Chinese struggling in the water. Seven Englishmen besides the ship's crew were killed. Colonel von Hammerstein arrived at Tientsin on the 25th. He extolled the splendid courage of the Chinese.

The "Standard" asserts that this account is fairly accurate. It says that Hankeken was used by a Korean fishing boat. He made an attempt before the British Consul at Chemulpo to recover his experience, and on this occasion the "Standard" narrative was taken.

Majority "The Standard" rehearses its correspondent's story, and after violently denouncing the Japanese for their barbarity, says:

From this Japan has placed herself in a most dangerous position to England. As regards the Japanese, we must not expect from civilized nations the approval of their reckless and unfeeling policy of self-sacrifice.

The "Times" correspondent in Che-Foo sends substantially the same story published by "The Standard" concerning the Kow-Shing affair. He points to the diversity of the accounts of this affair. "The Times" says:

If the Japanese story that the Chih-Yuen first was torpedoed at the Naniwa is accurate, the Chinese version is explained. If the story from Che-Foo is correct, the British flag was seriously outraged, and a Japanese massacre, worthy of the most barbarous times and savage peoples of Asia, was com-

ing the British flag. The Minister was also instructed to inform the Government of Great Britain that the commander of the Japanese cruiser was unaware until after the fight that the Kow-Shing was a British vessel.

Captain Galeworthy, the commander of the Kow-Shing, and many others on board were saved by the boats of the Japanese warship Naniwa.

CHINESE VICTORIES IN COREA.

Shanghai, Aug. 1.—Advices from Yashan say that the Chinese are strongly intrenched there and that repeated attempts have been made by the Japanese troops to dislodge them. In every instance, however, the attacking forces, after hard-fought engagements, were repulsed at all points with heavy losses. A portion of the Chinese soldiers engaged in these battles were the best troops of the Northern Army of Viceroy Li Hung Chang. The Chinese losses were small.

"The North China News" confirms the report of fighting at Yashan. It says that the Japanese brought up for the attack every available man, almost denuding Seoul of troops. The successful defence made by the Chinese was directed by European officers.

Advices from Korea say that the Japanese are preparing to withdraw part of their troops from Seoul and reinforce their army in front of Yashan, with a view of renewing their attacks upon that place. It is expected here that Japan will make a formal declaration of war upon China to-day.

Nine heavy guns have been added to the artillery at Taku Harbor in the last three days, and submarine mines have been laid in expectation of an attack from the Japanese fleet. Great alarm is felt at Taku, as the people there believe that any day may bring several Japanese war vessels and a bombardment. The steam launches of the Chinese customs service are scouring along the coast to ascertain whether or not the Japanese are approaching. Their officers report that several Japanese cruisers have been seen in the Gulf of Pechili. The ability of the Taku forts to withstand a bombardment is doubted. The works were not built to resist the fire of modern guns.

A letter from Han-Kow says that the outbreak of hostilities has revived all the native fanaticism of the Chinese. Foreigners are insulted openly and violence is feared.

Six Chinese transports packed with troops sailed on Monday from Che-Foo. They were conveyed by three warships.

THE JAPANESE ACCOUNT.

Yokohama, Aug. 1.—The Japanese Government has issued the following official account of the engagement between the Chinese and Japanese warships, which resulted in the sinking of the transport Kow-Shing:

The Chinese cruisers, the Chih-Yuen and the Kuwani, were observed steaming from Kusan, and a transport, carrying Chinese soldiers, conveyed by the Chinese warship Tsoo-Kiang, was seen coming from Tokyo toward Kusan-Kia, met the Chinese warship near Fantaio Island. The Chinese did not salute, but made hostile preparations.

In order to get out of the narrow waters in which they were the Japanese cruisers put to sea, whereupon the Tsoo-Kiang pursued the Naniwa. The Naniwa thereupon put about and fired upon the Chinese cruisers. The Chih-Yuen and the Kuwani, however, retreated, and the Chih-Yuen fired the white flag above the Japanese naval ensign. The Naniwa consequently delayed firing upon the warship, and then the transport crossed the bow of the Naniwa. The latter fired a blank shot and signalled the transport to stop.

In the mean time the Chih-Yuen had approached under the Naniwa's stern, when within a distance of about one hundred yards she discharged a torpedo, which sank the Japanese warship. The Naniwa then opened fire upon the Chih-Yuen, and the Yashan joined in the action. The Chih-Yuen finally fled and was pursued. The Chinese ship, however, was not overtaken. The second Chinese warship, the Kuwani, had in the mean time been engaged with the Japanese cruiser Akitsusa, but like the Naniwa, she finally fled and took refuge between the shore and a shoal.

The transport carried six guns and had 1,100 soldiers on board. The captain of the transport surrendered, but the soldiers on board of her refused to do so, and resisted capture. The Naniwa was ultimately obliged to open fire upon the transport, and eventually sank her by the bows of the Naniwa. It was afterward discovered that the transport was a British steamer, the Kow-Shing. She had on board four chiefs of battalion and fifteen colonels of the Chinese Army. In addition to the soldiers referred to, the Japanese Government, as soon as it was informed of the sinking of the British ship, expressed its regrets, declaring to the British subject had been made. Japan was shown to be in the wrong. The Japanese Government was prepared to make full reparation for the loss sustained.

The naval engagement of July 25 should not be confounded with the battle fought on July 29, nor should the Chih-Yuen, a Chinese unarmored ship of 2,300 tons, in the first encounter, be confounded with the Chinese armored battleship Chen-Yuen, 5,500 tons, reported sunk in the second fight.

TO MAINTAIN RUSSIAN INTERESTS.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 1.—The Russian newspapers unanimously declare that Russia will not tolerate any abridgment of Korean territory or suppression of her independence, no matter what may be the result of the war between China and Japan, nor will she permit any interference by Great Britain or any other Power if such interference conflicts with the interests of Russia.

It is urged by the newspapers that in military and naval measures should be adopted in the Pacific and on the frontier which will maintain the interests of Russia in case she is called upon to defend them.

The Russian newspapers also agree that the European Powers are inclined to be too active in attempting to settle the conflict between China and Japan. If a European peace-maker is needed, they say, Russia's claim must be maintained. The "Novoye Vremya" says: "The first duty of the Russian Government is to endeavor to localize the war in Korea." The editors, with few exceptions, urge Russia to support China's suzerainty, but hardly conceal their opinion that Russia will derive benefit from such a course.

THE CHEN-YUEN ESCAPED

CHINESE VERSION OF THE TWO DAYS' NAVAL BATTLE.

TWO JAPANESE WARSHIPS BEATEN OFF AFTER A DESPERATE FIGHT—CHINA'S BIG IRONCLAD, BADLY DAMAGED, PUTS INTO BAY.

DOCK FOR REPAIRS—THE TWO GUNBOATS ACCOMPANY HER.

Shanghai, Aug. 1.—The Japanese warships Takachino and Hiyel made an attack upon the Chinese ironclad Chen-Yuen at 11 o'clock a. m. on July 27, the day after the attack on the Chinese transport Kow-Shing, which resulted in the sinking of the Kow-Shing. After a long and desperate fight the Japanese vessels were beaten off, the Hiyel being disabled and rendered helpless. The Chen-Yuen, though badly damaged, succeeded in reaching port in safety. An company with two gunboats which also took part in the engagement, and immediately went into drydock for repairs after her two days' fight. The damage repairs after her two days' fight. The same time to the Chen-Yuen is so great that, some time must elapse before it can be fully repaired, and the vessel again sent to the sea for operations.

London, Aug. 1.—A morning announcing the attack on the Japanese warship Chen-Yuen on July 27 is regarded here as clearing up the mystery of yesterday's attack. The Chen-Yuen and Ching-Yuen captured, and the Kow-Shing probably destroyed.

BLOWN UP WITH DYNAMITE

BURGLARS WRECK AND LOOT THE GLEN COVE, L. I. POSTOFFICE.

THEY BURST THE SAFE OPEN AND ESCAPED WITH THEIR PLUNDER—BELIEVED TO BE THE SAME GANG WHICH HAS ROBBERED OTHER OFFICES—A POSSE HUNT-ING FOR THEM.

Considerable excitement prevailed at Glen Cove, L. I., at 2 o'clock yesterday morning when an alarm spread through the village that the post-office had been broken into and the big safe containing \$1,200 in postage stamps and between \$400 and \$500 in cash emptied. The alarm was given by Thomas Murphy, who keeps a barroom near the postoffice. Postmaster James H. Cox was the most surprised man in town when he opened the office for business at 6:30 o'clock. The place was in the greatest confusion. The safe lay in parts about the room, having been blown up by dynamite. Letters and mail pouches, with numerous packages and the contents of closets and drawers had been torn open and scattered over the floor. Every corner of the building had been ransacked.

The rear window of the office through which the burglars effected an entrance was opened. The thieves succeeded in doing their work thoroughly, leaving nothing as a clue to their identity except footprints on several sides on the ground in the rear of the building. The postoffice is in the heart of the business centre of the town. On one side is a drug store and on the other a dry-goods store. There are living apartments over each one of these establishments. Mr. Murphy, who lives near by, says he saw three men on the roof of the postoffice shortly before 2 o'clock. The men were strangers in town and looked as if they came from New-York. Murphy thought that they were repairing the roof, until he made an investigation some time later and found that the panels of the roof door had been sawed away. He then moved the heavy door and took the safe out through the door and carry it away to the woods if they did not succeed in blowing it open.

As soon as Postmaster Cox learned of the burglary an alarm was given and all the authorities in Queens County were informed of the robbery. Deputy Sheriff Edward Campbell at once took up the trail of the burglars. He learned that about 5 o'clock yesterday morning a hand-car, such as is used by section men to carry tools in, was taken from the Long Island Road depot. The hand-car was found later in the ditch near Seacliffe. The theory of the detectives is that the thieves abandoned the car at this point and made for the woods.

Shortly after 5 o'clock Deputy Sheriff Campbell returned from Glenhead, and organized a posse of a dozen men armed with revolvers and clubs. Campbell said he had discovered the hiding place of the burglars in the woods on the edge of Seacliffe. He was close enough to the gang to hear enough of their conversation to satisfy him that they were the thieves who robbed the postoffice. Campbell's posse started out at 10 o'clock and spread so as to close all outlets for escape. A peculiarity of the robbery is that no one could be found who heard the explosion of the dynamite, in which a watchman is regularly employed. The watchman declares that he saw no strange men on the street and that he heard no noise. It is believed that the posse of Campbell's posse started out at 10 o'clock and spread so as to close all outlets for escape. A peculiarity of the robbery is that no one could be found who heard the explosion of the dynamite, in which a watchman is regularly employed. 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